



GWIC Thesis Prize

The Gravitational Wave International Committee (GWIC) was formed in 1997 to promote international collaboration and cooperation in the construction, operation and use of the major gravitational wave detection facilities world-wide. To this end, GWIC has established an annual prize for the outstanding Ph.D. thesis based on research in gravitational waves.

Nominations for the first GWIC Thesis Prize are now open. Members of the broader gravitational wave community are invited to nominate students who have performed notable research on any aspect of gravitational waves science. Theses will be judged on 1) originality and creativity of the research, 2) importance to the field of gravitational waves and gravitational wave detection, broadly interpreted, and 3) clarity of presentation in the thesis. It is expected that most of the nominations will come from the member projects of GWIC, but that is not a requirement.

Eligibility: The award is made on a calendar year basis. However, the period for this first award is extended to cover the period from June 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006; theses must have been accepted by their institutions within the above period to qualify for consideration.

A committee representing the GWIC member projects will evaluate the nominations and select the winner. Nominated theses may be in any language -- the selection committee will use consultants to help evaluate theses if they do not possess the required linguistic breadth. The selection committee will make the final determinations about eligibility.

Nominations: Nominations should be submitted to the Selection Committee chair (Stan Whitcomb, whitcomb_s@ligo.caltech.edu) by April 1, 2007. The nomination package consists of (i) the thesis, (ii) a letter of nomination, preferably from the thesis advisor, and (iii) an optional supporting letter from another scientist familiar with the work. The nomination letter (and supporting letter if applicable) should describe the importance of the research and how it supports GWIC's goals to promote construction and exploitation of gravitational-wave detectors, foster development of new or enhanced gravitational-wave detectors, and to support the development of gravitational-wave detection as an astronomical tool generally. The thesis and letters may be submitted in electronic form (preferred) or in hard-copy (five copies).

The GWIC Thesis Prize will be presented at the Amaldi meeting at Sydney July 8-14. The recipient will receive a certificate of recognition and a prize of \$1,000. The nominator is responsible to ensure that travel funds will be made available to send the winner to the Amaldi meeting to receive the prize.